

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A method for organizing email messages received by a user,  
2     comprising:  
3           detecting receipt of email messages;  
4           determining if the received email messages identify a recipient to which an  
5     original email message was transmitted by the user; and  
6           organizing responsive content from at least two independent received email  
7     messages in a consolidated file such that responsive content that pertains to a given  
8     email exchange is contained within a single file.

1           2.     The method of claim 1, wherein determining if the received email  
2     messages identify a recipient comprises determining if senders of the received email  
3     messages were recipients to which the original email message was transmitted.

1           3.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content  
2     comprises organizing the responsive content from at least two independent received  
3     email messages that comprise direct responses to the original email message.

1           4.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content  
2     comprises organizing the responsive content relative to content of the original email  
3     message.

1           5.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content  
2 comprises comparing content contained within the received email messages with  
3 content contained within the original email message transmitted by the user to identify  
4 common content.

1           6.     The method of claim 5, wherein organizing responsive content further  
2 comprises omitting the common content so as not to provide multiple copies of  
3 originally-transmitted content.

1           7.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content  
2 comprises organizing the responsive content in accordance with a date and time that  
3 the responsive content was received.

1           8.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content  
2 comprises organizing the responsive content in accordance with at least one of a  
3 sender name, a size of the responsive content, a priority of the sender, and an  
4 identified importance with which the responsive content was sent.

1           9.     The method of claim 1, wherein organizing responsive content in a  
2 consolidated file comprises organizing the responsive content in a consolidated email  
3 message.

1           10.    The method of claim 9, wherein organizing the responsive content in a  
2 consolidated email message comprises organizing the responsive content in a  
3 consolidated email message presented in an email application inbox in lieu of the  
4 independent incoming email messages.

1           11.    The method of claim 1, further comprising organizing new content that  
2 is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in the consolidated file by  
3 associating the new content with the previously-organized responsive content.

1           12.    A system for organizing email messages received by a user,  
2 comprising:  
3           means for monitoring receipt of email messages;  
4           means for detecting receipt of email messages;  
5           means for determining if the received email messages were sent by a recipient  
6 to which an original email message was transmitted by the user; and  
7           means for organizing responsive content from at least two of the independent  
8 received email messages sent by a recipient in a consolidated file such that all  
9 responsive content that pertains to a given email exchange is contained within a single  
10 file.

1           13.    The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing responsive  
2   content comprise means for comparing content contained within the received email  
3   messages with content contained within the original email message transmitted by the  
4   user to identify common content, and further comprising means for omitting the  
5   common content so as not to provide multiple copies of originally-transmitted content.

1           14.    The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing responsive  
2   content comprise means for organizing the responsive content in accordance with at  
3   least one of a date and time that the responsive content was received, a sender name, a  
4   size of the responsive content, a priority of the sender, and an identified importance  
5   with which the responsive content was sent.

1           15.    The system of claim 12, wherein the means for organizing the  
2   responsive content comprise means for organizing the responsive content in a  
3   consolidated email message provided in an email application inbox in lieu of the  
4   independent incoming email messages.

1           16.    The system of claim 12, further comprising means for organizing new  
2   content that is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in the  
3   consolidated file by associating the new content with the previously-organized  
4   responsive content.

1           17.    A message organization manager stored on a computer-readable  
2 medium, the manager comprising:

3           logic configured to determine if received email messages identify an intended  
4 recipient to which an original email message was transmitted by the user; and

5           logic configured to organize responsive content from at least two independent  
6 received email messages that were determined to identify an intended recipient in a  
7 consolidated file such that all responsive content that pertains to a given email  
8 exchange is contained within a single file.

1           18.    The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to determine if  
2 the received email messages identify an intended recipient comprises logic configured  
3 to determine if senders of the received email messages were recipients to which the  
4 original email message was transmitted.

1           19.    The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize  
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to compare content contained within  
3 the received email messages with content contained within the original email message  
4 to identify common content, and further comprising logic configured to omit the  
5 common content.

1           20.    The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize  
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to organize the responsive content in  
3 accordance with a date and time that the responsive content was received.

1           21.     The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize  
2 responsive content comprises logic configured to organize the responsive content in  
3 accordance with at least one of a sender name, a size of the responsive content, a  
4 priority of the sender, and an identified importance with which the responsive content  
5 was sent.

1           22.     The manager of claim 17, wherein the logic configured to organize  
2 responsive content in a consolidation file comprises logic configured to organize the  
3 responsive content in a consolidated email message that is provided in an email  
4 application inbox in lieu of the independent incoming email messages.

1           23.     The manager of claim 17, further comprising logic configured to  
2 organize new content that is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in  
3 the consolidated file by associating the new content with the previously-organized  
4 responsive content.